

SkiLD: Unsupervised Skill Discovery Guided by Factor Interactions

Zizhao Wang*, Jiaheng Hu*, Caleb Chuck*, Stephen Chen,
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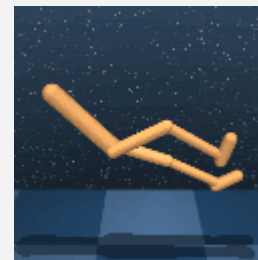
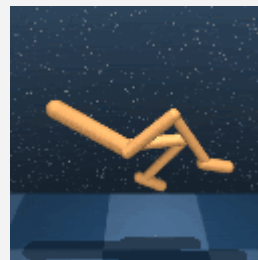
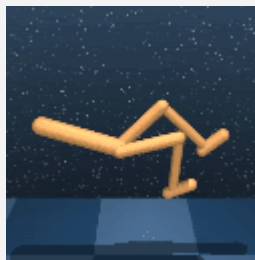
University of Texas at Austin, Sony AI

Background: Unsupervised Skill Discovery

Learn reusable behaviors through reward-free interaction

- Represented as a policy $\pi(a|s, z)$ conditioned on the skill z .

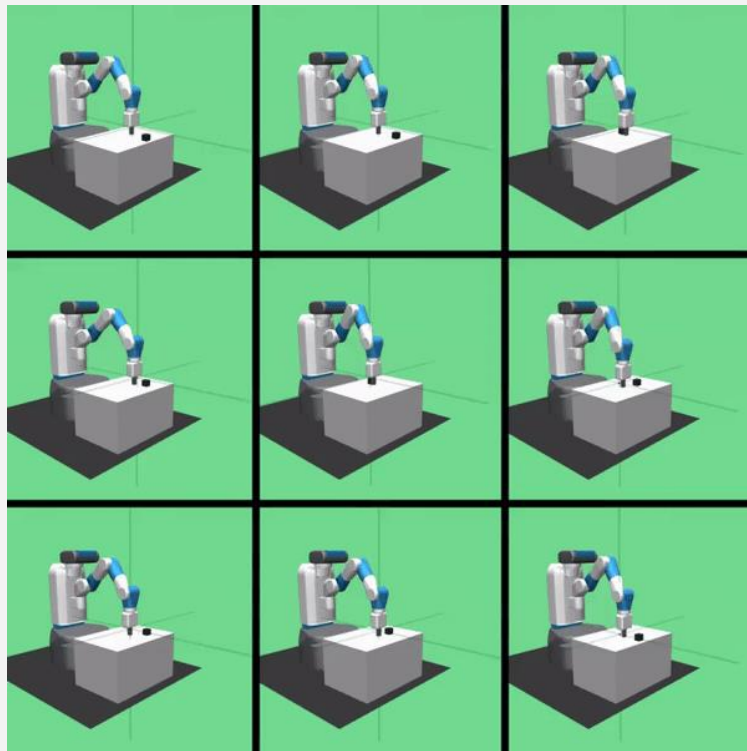
Key idea: visit distinguishable states for each z .



Background: Unsupervised Skill Discovery

Drawbacks:

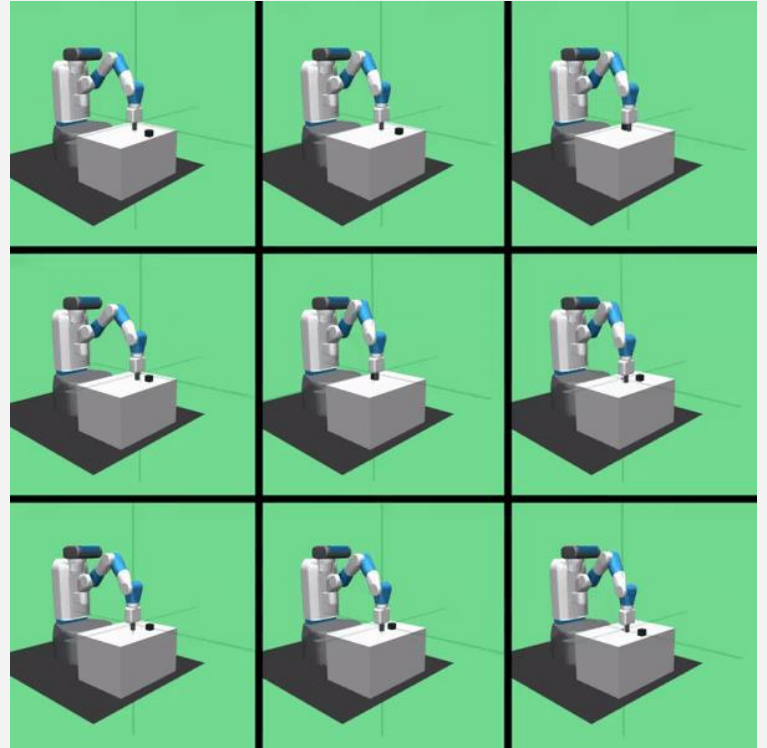
- Skills are **not semantically meaningful**.
- Do not scale to environments with **multiple state factors** (e.g., objects).



Motivation

Drawback Causes:

- As state space grows **exponentially** w.r.t. state factors, it is challenging to reach all possible states.
- In addition, many states are not very **meaningful** for downstream tasks.



Motivation

Another way to represent skills: **interactions**

- Many skills can be described as **interactions between state factors**.
 - For example, driving a nail is an interaction between a human, a hammer and a nail.
 - Factor interactions are **naturally semantically meaningful**.
 - For many downstream tasks, inducing interactions is more useful than visiting some random states.
- Moreover, **# inducible interactions** \ll **# reachable states**.
 - Hence, it is easier to learn skills to cover the interaction space.



Method: skill representation

We propose that, for multi-factor state environments,

skill discovery should learn to **induce diverse interactions** between state factors.

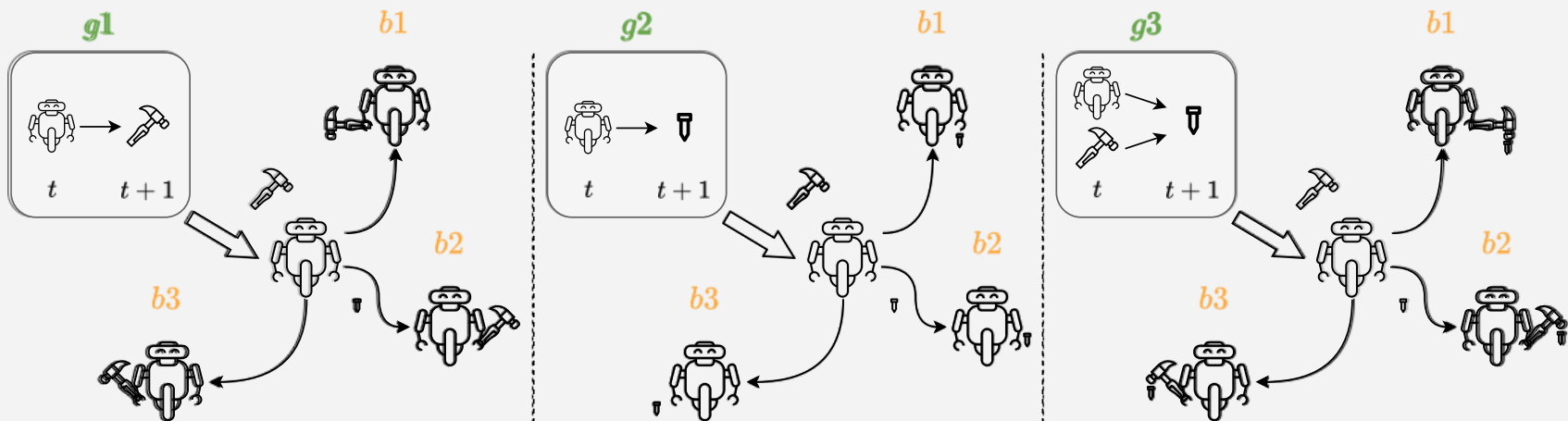
Method: skill representation

skill discovery should learn to **induce diverse interactions** between state factors.

$$z = (g, b)$$

desired
interactions

diversity
variable

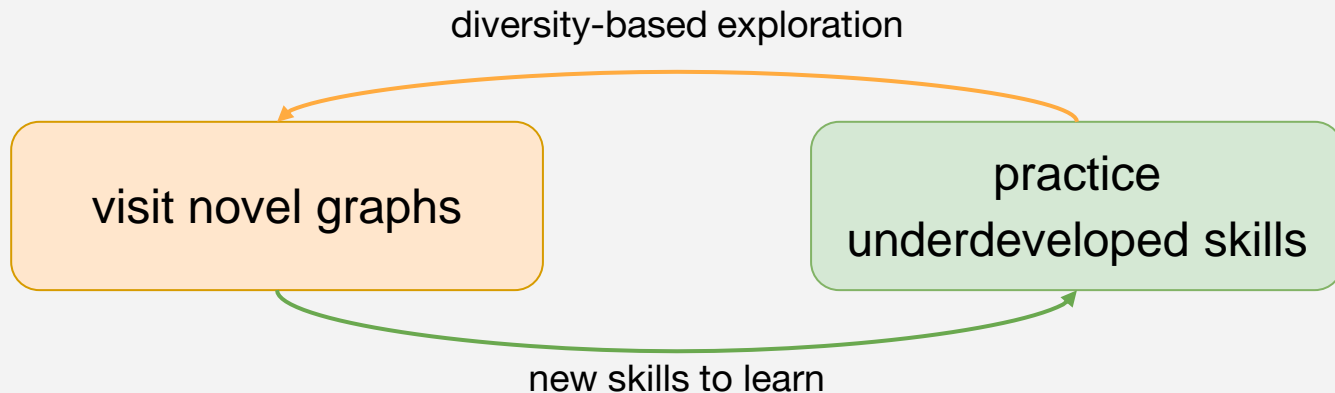


Method: high-level graph selection policy $\pi_{\mathcal{G}}(g|s)$

Graph selection policy

$$\pi_{\mathcal{G}} : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$$

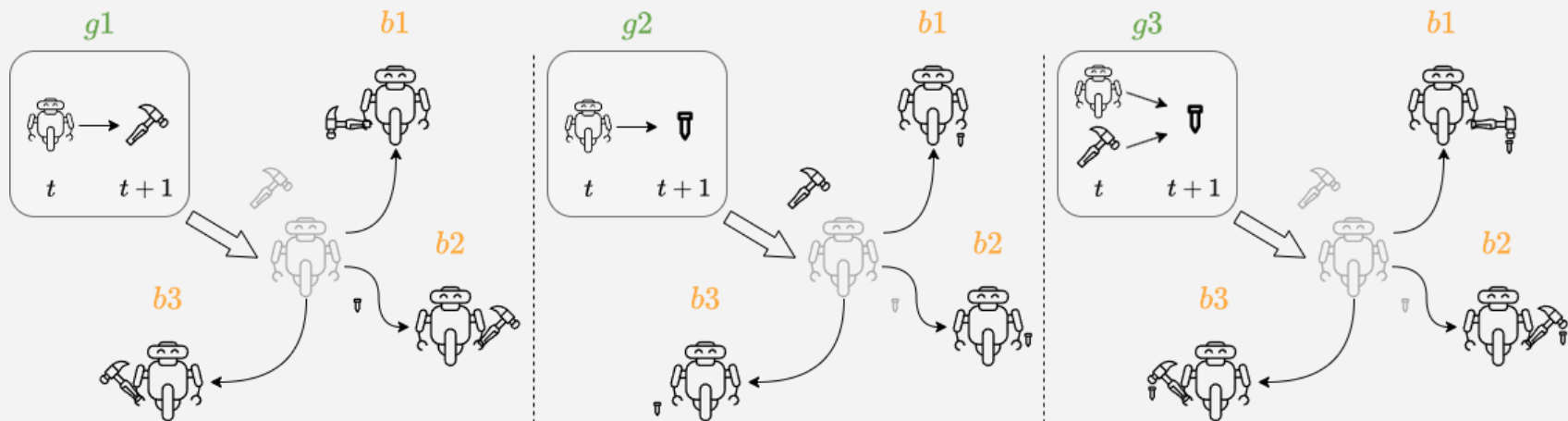
It guides the exploration and training of skill policy



Method: low-level skill policy $\pi_{\text{skill}}(a|s, z)$

The skill policy $\pi_{\text{skill}}(a|s, z)$, where $z = (g, b)$, has two goals:

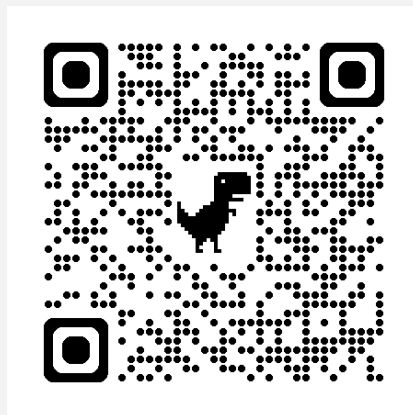
- achieve the desired graph g
- then, further change s to diverse values while maintaining the graph



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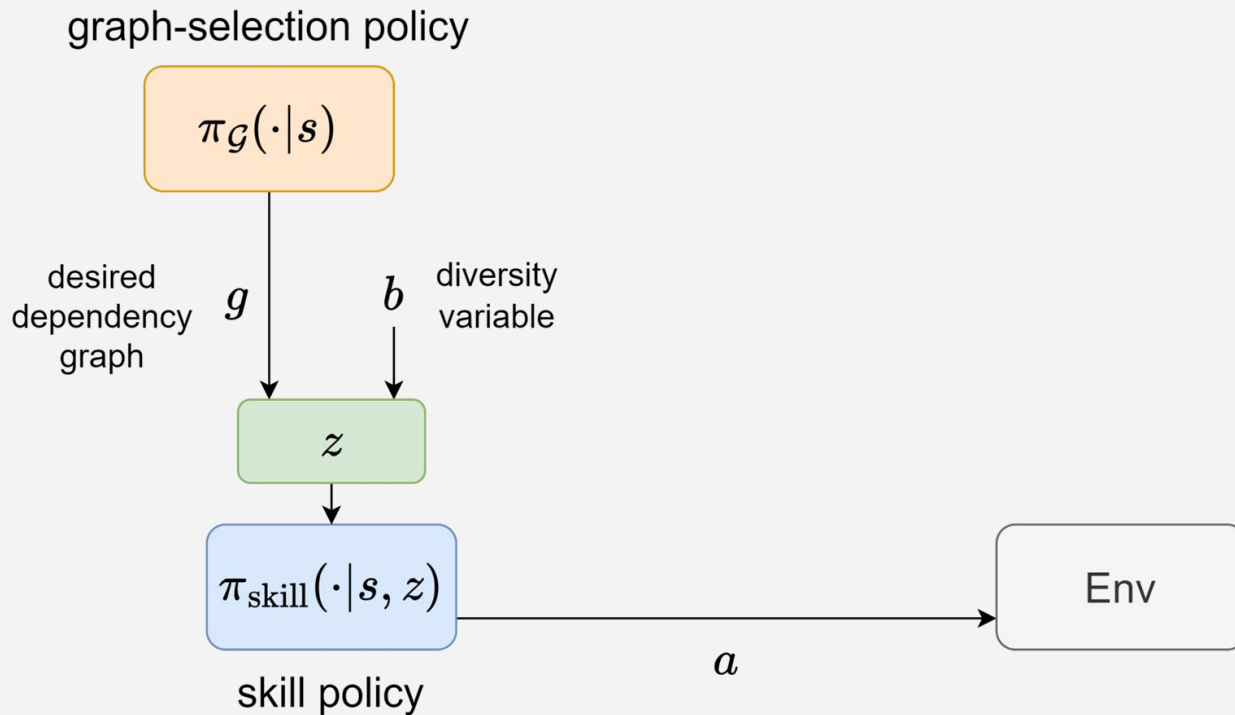


Project Page

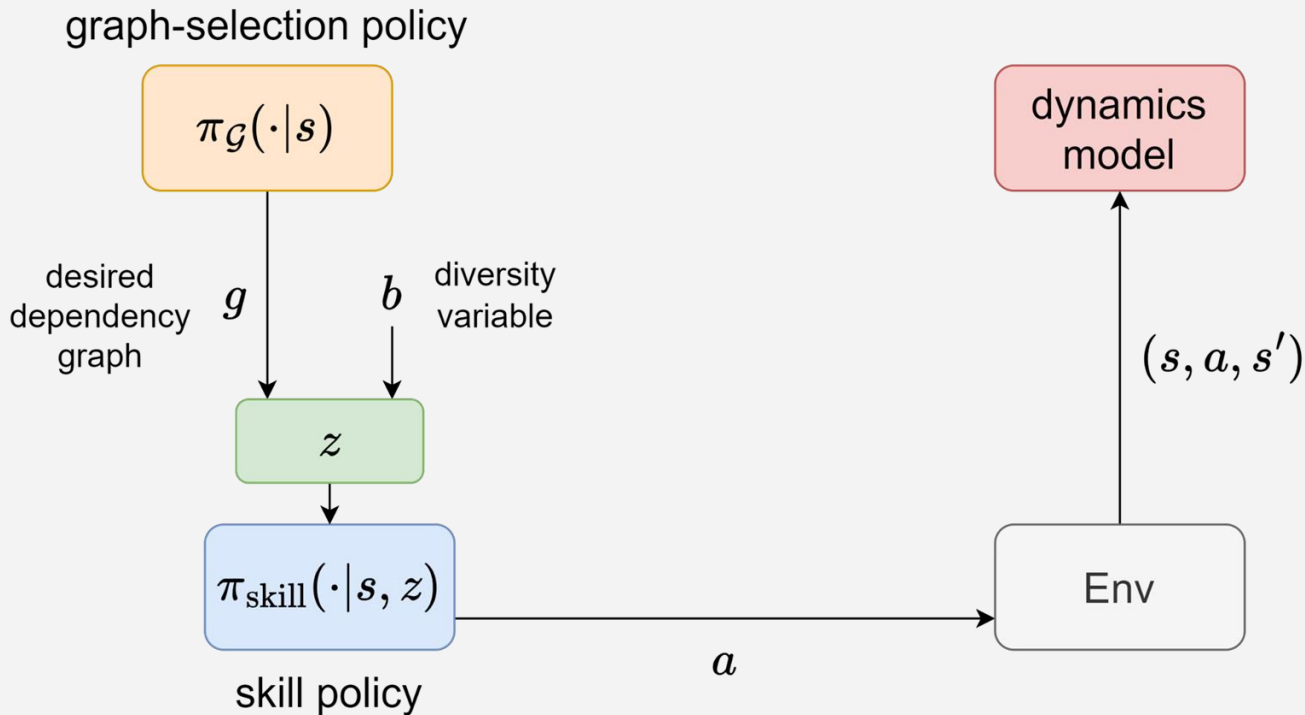


Paper

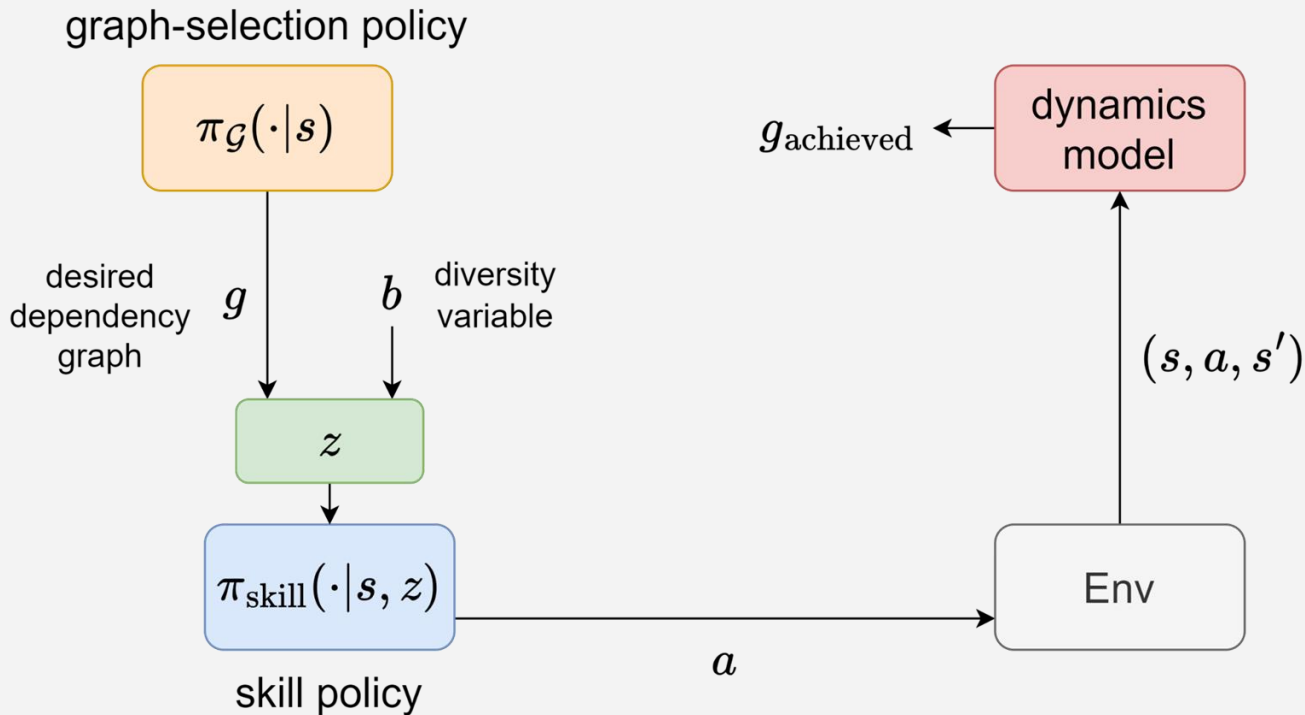
Method: pipeline - skill learning



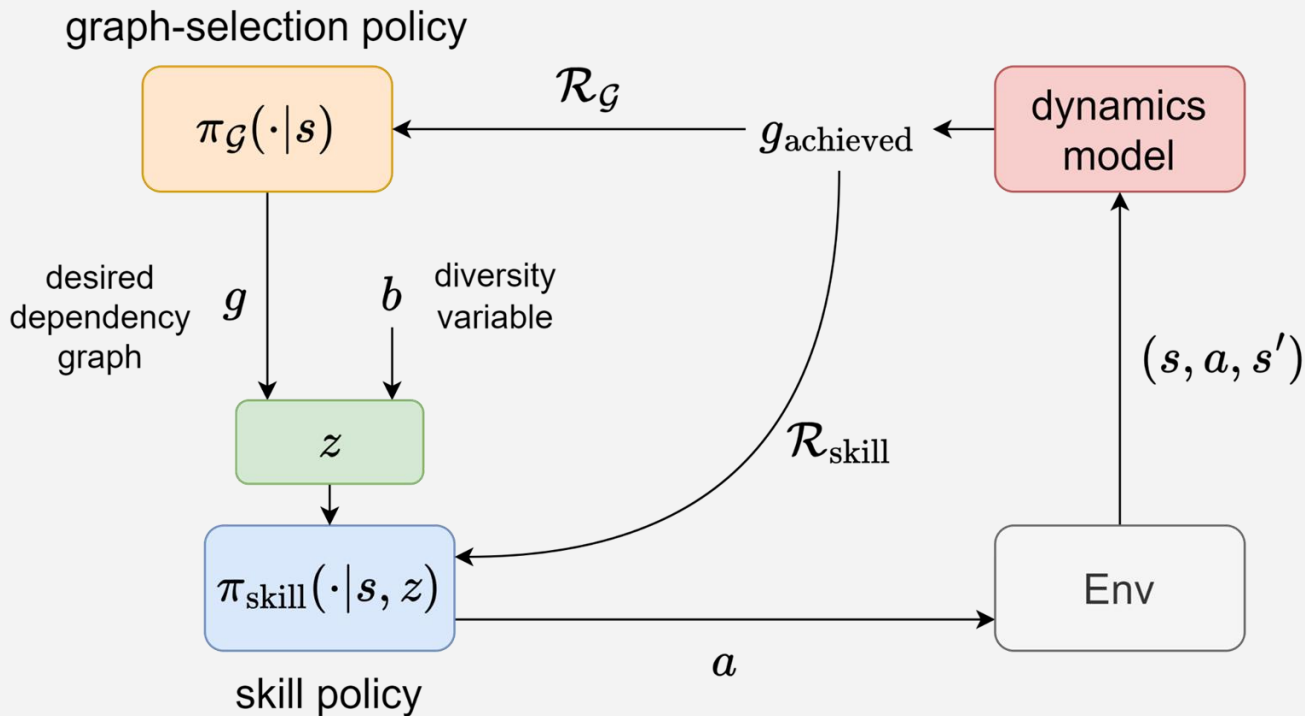
Method: pipeline - skill learning



Method: pipeline - skill learning



Method: pipeline - skill learning



Method: pipeline - task learning

